

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03995 172131Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NRC-05 CG-00 DOTE-00 COME-00
FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 EB-07 DODE-00 SS-15 FMC-01 DLOS-09 /093 W
-----180618Z 047974 /14

R 172121Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3499
INFO ERDA HQS WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
ALL OTHER CANADIAN CONSULS

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DEPT PASS NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR LAFLEUR
AND BIRKEL

US COAST GUARD FOR CDR. J. DECK III

MARAD FOR Z. LEVINE

SECSTATE FOR OES/NET/HOYLE

ERDA FOR SIEVERING AND NEWBY

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: EWWT, ENRG, ETRD, TECH, CA
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR ICEBREAKER QUESTION

REF: OTTAWA 2241, AND PREVIOUS

1. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION WITH O'NEIL (COMMISSIONER,
CANADIAN COAST GUARD) ON OTHER MATTERS MAY 17, TCO RAISED
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NUCLEAR ICEBREAKER QUESTION. O'NEIL INDICATED HE NOW
ENVISAGES SUBMISSION TO CABINET IN JUNE. ISSUES WILL
INVOLVE (A) NUCLEAR VS NON-NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, WITH MOT
STILL STRONGLY PREFERRING NUCLEAR, (B) INCREASE OF POWER
FROM CLASS VII TO CLASS X STATUS--WHICH IT IS ESTIMATED
FOR NUCLEAR VESSEL WILL ADD 70-75 MILLION DOLLARS TO
COST, AND (C) CHOICE OF CONTRACTOR.

2. O'NEIL NOTED THAT STANDBY DESIGN FOR VESSEL ON CLASS X BASIS IS NEARLY COMPLETED AND THAT IF CABINET CHOOSES TO GO FOR THIS SIZE, U.S. TENDER WILL BE MORE ATTRACTIVE AS IT IS BASICALLY FOR A LARGER POWER PLANT THAN COULD BE ACCOMMODATED IN CLASS VII ICEBREAKER.
3. BIG ISSUE WILL BE WHETHER ICEBREAKER IS NEEDED FOR 1982 (TO FIT WITH PROPOSALS OF THOSE URGING RAPID DEVELOPMENT MARINE TRANSPORT FOR HIGH ARCTIC GAS, SEE OTTAWA 3734) OR CAN WAIT UNTIL 1984, EARLIEST DATE WHEN NUCLEAR VESSEL COULD BE OPERATIONAL. O'NEIL INDICATED HE PERSONALLY WAS SKEPTICAL WHETHER GAS TRANSPORT INTERESTS COULD REALLY BECOME OPERATIONAL BY 1982 AND THUS HIS PREFERENCE FOR NUCLEAR SHIP WITH 1984 OPERATIONAL DATE IS SOMEWHAT REENFORCED. HOWEVER, HE WOULD NOT ATTEMPT PREDICT OUTCOME ON THIS TIMING ISSUE. ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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